

Remarks

Claim 1-17 are pending in the application. The specification has been amended. Claims 1-3, 5, 7-10, 13, and 15-17 have been amended. Claim 4 has been cancelled. New claims 18-20 have been added to the application. Reconsideration and re-examination of the application is respectfully requested for the reasons set forth herein.

1. The Examiner has objected to the drawings for failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(4), because reference character "32" has been used to designate both apertures in paragraph [0020] and strands in paragraph [0021].

The specification has been amended to designate apertures in paragraph [0020] with reference character 35 to correspond with the drawings. In view of the amendments to the specification, removal of the objection to the drawings under 37 CFR 1.84(p)(4) is respectfully requested.

2. The specification has been amended to correct typographical errors. Approval by the Examiner of the amendments to the specification is respectfully requested.

3. The Examiner has objected to claims 1-9 because of an informality. Specifically, the Examiner stated that claims 1-9 are not written in accordance with current U.S. practice, and consequently, the preamble and the different limitations are difficult to distinguish.

Claim 1 has been amended to clearly separate the preamble from the body of the claim. Claim ⁴8 has been cancelled from the application. Claims ^{2-5, 7-9}2-7 and 9 depend from independent claim 1 and have preambles corresponding therewith. In view of this amendment, removal of the objection to claims 1-7 and 9 is respectfully requested.

4. The Examiner has objected to claim 9 because of an informality. Specifically, the Examiner stated that claim 9 includes a reference character, which is not enclosed within parentheses.

Claim 9 has been amended to remove the reference character. Claims 1-3, 5, 7-8, 10, 13, and 15-17 have also been amended to remove the reference characters. In view of this amendment, removal of the objection to claim 9 is respectfully requested.

5. The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 2, and 10 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Adler et al. (US Patent No. 4,827,179). The Examiner stated that Adler et al. discloses in Figures 2, 3a, and 16, a CRT tension mask 56 attached to a support frame 34, which has long sides parallel to a major axis and short sides parallel to a minor axis. The tension mask 56 includes a vibration damper 108 comprising an elongated strip member 108 having a first and second end. The vibration damper 108 can be mounted along a peripheral portion of the tension mask 56. A major portion of a surface of the vibration damper 108 is in frictional contact with the border between the ends to receive vibration from the tension mask 56. The border is near the short sides and parallel therewith. The tension mask includes a vibration damper with a raised portion 90 disposed between the first and second ends. The Examiner, therefore, concluded that Adler et al. teaches all the claim limitations of claims 1, 2, and 10.

Claim 1 has been amended to correct typographical and grammatical errors and to state that the vibration damper comprises an elongated strip member extending along a border of the tension mask parallel to the short sides of the frame, the elongated strip member having first and second ends mounted adjacent to the long sides along the border of the tension mask

such that a major portion of its surface is in frictional contact with the border between the ends to receive vibration from the tension mask. Adler et al. teaches in Fig. 16, a cut-away view of an energy absorber 108 secured along a top surface of a peripheral portion of a color selection electrode 56. The energy absorber 108 is secured along the long sides of the color selection electrode 56 adjacent to the supporting rails 58. The energy absorber 108 is positioned and secured on the long sides at a region of maximal peripheral motion, as discussed in column 5, lines 29-39. The regions of maximum peripheral motion X, Y are centrally located on each of the sides of the color selection electrode 56, as shown in Figs. 3 and 3A. The regions of maximum peripheral motion X, Y are not taught to extend to *neither to you* proximate the corners or ends of the color selection electrode 56. The claimed invention teaches a vibration damper that extends along the short sides of the frame that has first and second ends mounted adjacent to the long sides of the tension mask. Adler et al., therefore, does not teach an arrangement as recited in claim 1 where the vibration damper extends along the short side and is secured at ends which are adjacent the long sides. Because Adler et al. does not teach all of the claim limitations of amended claim 1, removal of the rejection of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) is respectfully requested.

Claim 2 depends from independent claim 1. As previously discussed, Adler et al. does not teach all the elements of amended claim 1. Because Adler et al. does not teach all the elements of amended claim 1, Adler et al. does not teach all the elements of claim 2. Removal of the rejection of claim 2 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) is respectfully requested.

Claim 10 has been amended to correct typographical errors and to state that the tension mask includes a vibration damper comprising an elongated strip member having a raised portion formed between the first and second ends. Adler et al. teaches several embodiments of a vibration dampening means. In one embodiment, a plurality of compliant

PU010317

reeds 90 are arranged on a bracket 66 secured to a tension color selection electrode 56. The reed 90 resonates at a different frequency with the range of frequencies at which the color selection electrode 56 is expected to resonate as it heats up during tube operation. The bracket 66 is secured on a marginal portion of the tension color selection electrode 56 and immediately inside a supporting rail 58. The compliant reed 90 bends as it vibrates to extract energy from the system. In an alternate embodiment, Adler et al. teaches an energy absorber 108 secured along a peripheral portion of the color selection electrode 56 to damp vibrations in the color selection electrode 56. The energy absorber 108 is positioned proximate a rail 12 mounted to the CRT. Unlike the claimed invention, Adler et al. does not teach a vibration damper comprising an elongated member having a raised portion formed into ^{neither in you} the elongated member between first and second ends such that the vibration damper is capable of expanding during thermal cycling to maintain its structural integrity. Because Adler et al. does not teach all of the elements of amended claim 10, removal of the rejection of claim 10 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) is respectfully requested.

6. The Examiner has rejected claims 3-4 and 11-12 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Adler et al. (US Patent No. 4,827,179). The Examiner stated that Adler et al. discloses all of the recited claim limitations of claims 1 and 10 as previously discussed, and further discloses a respective support blade member 12 of a support frame 34 near a long side and parallel therewith. Adler et al. also discloses in Figures 2, 3a, and 16 that the vibration damper may extend to near the short sides of the tension mask to prevent a deterioration of picture quality caused by external vibrations. Adler et al. does not teach the exact attachment locations for the vibration damper. However, Adler et al. teaches an energy absorber secured along a peripheral portion of the tension mask, and it is well known in the

PU010317

art that it is preferable to attach the vibration dampening means near a support blade member and remote from a support blade member. The Examiner therefore concluded that it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to construct the tension mask vibration damper of Adler et al. with attachment locations positioned near the support blade members and attachment locations positioned remote from the support blade members since it is well known in the art that this configuration allows for proper attachment.

Claim 4 has been cancelled for having subject matter now contained in amended claim 1. Claim 3 depends from independent claim 1. As previously discussed, Adler et al. does not teach all the claim limitations of amended claim 1. Because Adler et al. does not teach all the claim limitations of amended claim 1, Adler et al. does not teach or suggest all the claim limitations of claim 3 except the exact attachment locations for the vibration damper. Because Adler et al. does not teach or suggest all the claim limitations of claim 3, removal of the rejection of claim 3 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) is respectfully requested.

Claims 11-12 depend from independent claim 10. As previously discussed, Adler et al. does not teach all the claim limitations of amended claim 10. Because Adler et al. does not teach all the claim limitations of amended claim 10, Adler et al. does not teach or suggest all the claim limitations of claims 11-12 except the exact attachment locations for the vibration damper. Because Adler et al. does not teach or suggest all the claim limitations of claims 11-12, removal of the rejection of claims 11-12 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) is respectfully requested.

PU010317

7. The Examiner has rejected claims 5-9 and 13-17 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Adler et al. (US Patent No. 4,827,179) in view of Suzuki et al. (US Patent No. 6,469,431).

With regard to claims 5, 8-9, 13, and 16-17, the Examiner stated that Adler et al. discloses all of the recited limitations of claims 1 and 10 as previously discussed. However, Adler et al. is silent as to attaching the vibration damper through an opening in the border. Suzuki et al. teaches a hole 14 formed in a border for a vibration attenuator to be inserted through and attached to a support plate 11a. Suzuki et al. also teaches a bent portion 13 that extends through an opening and along an opposite side of the border to allow the vibration attenuator to operate properly. The Examiner, therefore, concluded that it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to construct the tension mask vibration damper of Adler et al. with the hole configuration of Suzuki et al., since Suzuki et al. teaches this configuration as allowing the vibration attenuator to operate properly.

With regard to claim 6-7 and 14-15, the Examiner stated that Adler et al. and Suzuki et al. teach all the recited limitations of claims 5 and 13 as previously discussed. However, both Adler et al. and Suzuki et al. are silent as to an exact attachment method. Because it is well known in the art that adhesive and pins are suitable methods for attaching vibration dampers to support plates to insure proper operation of the vibration damper, the Examiner concluded that it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to construct the tension mask vibration damper of Adler et al. with an attachment being an adhesive or a pin since it is well known in the art that this configuration will allow for proper operation.

Claims 5-9 depend from independent claim 1. As previously discussed, Adler et al. does not teach all the elements of amended claim 1. Because Adler et al. does not teach all the elements of amended claim 1, Adler et al. does not teach all the elements of claims 5-9 except the vibration damper being attached through an opening in the border. The combination of Adler et al. in view of Suzuki et al., therefore, does not teach or suggest all the claim limitations of claims 5-9. Removal of the rejection of claims 5-9 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) is respectfully requested.

Additionally, claim 5 has been amended to state that the vibration damper is directly secured to an opposite side of the tension mask by a support plate located on an opposite side of the border, and claim 8 has been amended to state that at least one of the ends of the vibration damper is directly secured to an opposite side of the mask through an opening in the border. Adler et al. is silent as to attaching the vibration damper through an opening in the border. Suzuki et al. teaches a hole 14 formed in a border for a vibration attenuator 13 to be inserted through and attached to a mask frame 11a. Unlike the claimed invention, the combination of Adler et al. and Suzuki et al. does not teach a vibration damper having at least one end directly secured to an opposite side of the mask through an opening in the border of the mask. Removal of the rejection of claims 5 and 8 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) is respectfully requested.

Claims 13-17 depend from independent claim 10. As previously discussed, Adler et al. does not teach all the elements of amended claim 10. Because Adler et al. does not teach all the elements of claim 10, Adler et al. does not teach all the elements of claims 13-17 except a vibration damper attached through an opening in a border. Because the combination of Adler et al. in view of Suzuki et al. does not teach or suggest all the elements of claims 13-17, removal of the rejection of claims 13-17 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) is respectfully requested.

8. New claims 17-20 have been added to the application. Claim 18 is considered to be in condition for allowance because the prior art fails to teach or suggest a CRT having a support frame with long sides parallel to a major axis and short sides parallel to a minor axis, the long sides having support blade members for attaching a tension mask, the tension mask including a vibration damper comprising an elongated strip member extending along a border of the tension mask parallel to the short sides, the elongated strip member having first and second ends directly attached to the support blade members on the long sides, a major portion of the elongated strip member is in frictional contact with the border of the tension mask between the ends to receive vibration from the tension mask. Claims 19-20 depend from independent claim 18. Because claim 18 is considered to be in condition for allowance for the reasons set forth herein, claims 19-20 are also considered to be in condition for allowance. Examination of new claims 18-20 is respectfully requested.

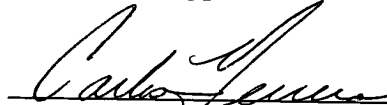
In view of the amendments and arguments presented herein, the application is considered to be in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and passage to issue is respectfully requested.

PU010317

Please charge any additional fees associated with this application to Deposit Order
Account No. 07-0832.

Respectfully submitted,

Reed et al., Applicants



Carlos M. Herrera

Registration No. 44,762

Attorney for Applicants

Phone: 717-295-6561

Facsimile: 717-295-6084

Patent Operation
Thomson Licensing Inc.
P.O. Box 5312
Princeton, NJ 08543-5312

May 28, 2003